

An earmark of \$2,000,000 to the borough of Ketchikan to participate in a cooperative study of determine feasibility and dynamics for the manufacture of veneer products from southeast Alaska.

An earmark of \$1,950,000 for erosion control in the Paseo del Canon Drainage Channel in Taos, NM.

An earmark of \$2,500,000 for the Forest Service, State and private forestry, to assume lead responsibility for implementing a restructuring of the Hardwoods Technology Center in Princeton, WV.

An earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Pacific Northwest assistance base program.

An earmark of \$3,000,000 for Gray's Harbor, WA to assist in restoration of infrastructure facilities and to assure continued operation of the local forest products industry.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

An earmark of \$500,000 for the White Mountain National Forest in Maine and New Hampshire from the funds recommended for revision of its land management plan.

An additional \$64,000 is provided for old growth habitat mapping and terrestrial ecosystem classification and inventory on the Monongahela National Forest.

An earmark of \$550,000 for the State of Alaska to cooperate in the monitoring of the Forest Service's implementation and management of the Tongass land management plan, and to assure compliance with its requirements.

An additional \$142,000 for the Monongahela National Forest for wildlife and fisheries habitat management.

An earmark of \$500,000 to address noxious weed issues on the Okanogan and Colville National Forests.

An earmark of \$400,000 to assist ranchers in NM at constructing water and fence improvements required by recent settlements negotiated by the Forest Service concerning livestock grazing.

An earmark of \$714,000 for administration of timber removal from lands involved in the Gallatin II land exchange.

An earmark of \$2,000,000 for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison, and White River National Forest aspen program.

An earmark of \$181,000 for specific watershed restoration projects on the Monongahela National Forest.

An earmark of \$100,000 for a watershed improvement needs inventory on the Clearwater National Forest.

An earmark of \$465,000 for counterdrug operations on the Daniel Boone National Forest.

An earmark of \$500,000 to establish, equip, house, and train a native American fire preparedness and suppression cadre to be located on the Black Hills National Forest.

RECONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION

An earmark of \$8,000,000 for construction of a forestry research facility at Auburn University.

An earmark of \$4,000,000 for construction of the Franklin County Lake Dam on the Homochitto National Forest.

An earmark of \$1,300,000 for construction of recreation facilities in Utah for the 2002 winter Olympics.

An earmark of \$125,000 for installation of additional water and electrical facilities at individual horse campsites at the Winding Stair Mountain National Recreation and Wilderness Area.

An earmark of \$320,000 for replacement of toilet facilities in the Ouachita National Forest.

An earmark of \$20,000 for construction of a boat launch facility at Bead Lake on the Colville National Forest.

An earmark of \$200,000 for reconstruction of a water system at the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area.

An earmark of \$475,000 for reconstruction at the Fletcher View Campground in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area.

An earmark of \$854,000 to facilitate access to blowdown timber at the Routt National Forest.

An earmark of \$68,000 for vegetation management work along the Talimena Scenic Byway in Oklahoma.

An earmark of \$720,000 for watershed improvements associated with soil and road erosion on the Monongahela National Forest.

An earmark of \$750,000 for construction of the Taft Tunnel Bicycle Trail.

An earmark of \$275,000 for trailhead relocation on the Routt National Forest associated with significant storm damage.

An earmark of \$183,000 to complete construction of the Tahoe Rim Trail and Trailhead.

An earmark of \$270,000 for construction of the Harriman Trail in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

An earmark of \$500,000 for the Continental Divide Trail.

An earmark of \$76,000 for construction of foot bridges on the Cedar Lake Trail of the Winding Stair Mountain National Recreation and Wilderness Area.

An earmark of \$2,600,000 for construction of trails in the vicinity of Ketchikan, AK.

LAND ACQUISITION

The Committee recommends an additional \$10,965,000 for this account, and earmarks the entire account \$67.022 million for various locality-specific projects.

FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Committee directs no less than \$250,000 to promote research on computational tools used by the Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys to determine the viability of coal bed methane as a fuel source in rural Alaska.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

An earmark of \$5,612,000 for the first-year costs associated with the Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership's 4-year project to develop an Alaskawide telemedicine network to provide access to health services and health education information in remote areas of Alaska.

An additional \$12,000 for Alaska immunization program.

INDIAN HEALTH FACILITIES

An earmark of \$13,900,000 to continue construction of the Hopi Health Center in Polacca, AZ.

Committee directs the Indian Health Service not to use any funds provided to close the IHS facility providing emergency services in Wagner, SD.

OTHER RELATED AGENCIES

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION: SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Earmark for \$150,000 for additional costs that will result from implementation of the Panama Canal Treaty at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.

Earmark for \$8,000,000 for expenses associated with equipping and staffing the NMAI Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, MD.

Total Earmarks: \$351,804,000.

Mr. MCCAIN. Many of the programs within this proposal are meritorious and do deserve funding. However, should American taxpayers foot the bill for rural and economic development programs solely benefitting the State of Alaska? My colleagues have generously included unrequested funding for \$1,000,000 to study mineral re-

sources-at-risk in Alaska under the Bureau of Land Management's budget, as well as including \$2,000,000 for the same minerals-at-risk program in Alaska under the U.S. Geological Survey budget. The earmarks do not stop there as \$3,000,000 is directed to build visitor use facilities in the Katami National Park and Preserve. The panel has also afforded the borough of Ketchikan \$2,000,000 to participate in a cooperative study to determine the feasibility of manufacturing veneer products from southeast Alaska.

Certainly the home state of the Committee's esteemed Chairman is not the only beneficiary of pork-barrel spending. My colleagues have seen to it that the State of Utah will have the funds to build an access road to venues for the winter Olympic Games in 2002. Calling it a "necessity" in their report, the Committee funnels \$15,000,000 toward the completion of Trapper's Loop Road. In addition, Utah is also slated to receive \$1,300,000 to build recreation facilities for the 2002 Games. What is even more egregious is that these funds are directed to be transferred to Utah before the remaining funding can be dispersed to states for other projects.

This bill is weighed down by dozens of other wasteful projects which clearly have skirted the public review process, and in many cases do not serve the greater national interest. For example, why must we expend \$500,000 of taxpayer dollars on noxious weed issues for the Okanogan and Colville national forests? Or to replace toilet facilities at a price of \$320,000 in the Ouachita National Forest? While the American people are proud of their national heritage and history, is it fair to ask them to pay \$10,000,000 for a new National Constitution Center in Pennsylvania?

Mr. President, I do not enjoy coming forth each year for every appropriation bill to decry wasteful spending, but I believe the American taxpayers deserve to know where their hard earned dollars will be spent. Sadly, this bill continues the practice of loading up important spending measures with unnecessary and wasteful pork-barrel projects. I hope that we can restore the faith of the American people in our federal government by honoring our responsibility to them by applying judicious deliberation to our budget process.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWNBACK). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 4250

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I had noted earlier today that I hoped we

could consider a new strategy, or a new way with which to accommodate the growing array of legislative needs that we, as a caucus, and the Senate need to address. I had intended at some point today to offer a unanimous consent request. I will do so, and then I will speak to it in a moment.

At this time I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its consideration today of the Interior appropriations bill, it turn to consideration of Calendar No. 505, the House-passed HMO reform bill, and that the bill become the pending business every day thereafter upon completion of legislative business. I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be limited to relevant amendments.

Mr. BENNETT. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. BENNETT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, or longer if they obtain consent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT ALLIANCE

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the efforts of the Take Back The Night Alliance, an organization in the metropolitan Louisville, Kentucky area that is working to end a problem that affects us all in one way or another: violence against women. On Thursday, September 10, as part of Sexual Assault Awareness and Domestic Violence Awareness months, the Alliance will for the first time in its nine-year history kick off a month-long series of events that will create a greater awareness of the attitudes, beliefs and behaviors that perpetuate these specific kinds of crimes.

The statistics of domestic violence are sobering, and I'll give you just a brief sampling here:

A woman is physically abused every nine seconds in the United States.

In Kentucky alone, 80,000 women were victims of domestic violence in 1997.

One out of four females will be sexually assaulted before they reach the age of 18.

For every rape, 10 others go unreported.

Husbands and boyfriends commit 13,000 acts of violence against women in the workplace every year.

The total healthcare costs of family violence are estimated at \$44 million each year.

Take Back The Night rallies have been held throughout the United States since 1978. In Louisville, the National Organization for Women has

been the organizing force for this event for the past nine years, but over 200 civic organizations, government agencies and businesses have joined this year to sponsor a wide range of activities drawing attention to the problems faced by women who are victims of domestic violence, rape and sexual assault. One group will collect previously owned business clothing for abused women returning to the workforce. Another will sponsor safety and prevention workshops in area hospitals and companies. And yet another will provide materials on date rape and sexual assault to be placed in bars and in women's restrooms.

Louisville and Jefferson County have been recognized as leaders in the field of domestic violence, and I am heartened by the strong outpouring of support that the Take Back the Night Alliance has received from the community. We all know that such success does not happen by accident, and I would like to commend the Alliance leaders for their dedicated efforts to ease the plight of women who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and rape.

NATIONAL JEWISH MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the National Jewish Medical Research Center in Denver, Colorado, which has recently been recognized by U.S. News and World Report as the top-ranked Respiratory Hospital in the United States. The work of National Jewish is close to my heart because I watched my mother struggle with tuberculosis throughout her lifetime. She lived and worked in a sanatorium for many years, making it difficult for her to care for my sister and me.

In the late 1800s, Denver's elevation and abundant sunshine made it a mecca for people with tuberculosis. National Jewish treated only patients with tuberculosis until the 1950s, when antibiotics brought the disease under control. The hospital then turned its attention to asthma. Allergies which can develop into asthma, bronchitis, and sinus infections, now attack some 40 million people, double the number 25 years ago. Twice as many people, 15 million, have asthma now, too, at a cost of \$6.2 billion a year in missed work and school, in medications and hospital visits.

Today, National Jewish is a world-class institution, a global leader in the research and treatment of lung, allergic and immune diseases. It is ranked as the number one private institution for immunology research in the world and as one of the top 10 independent research institutions of any kind in the world. Tremendous breakthroughs in understanding respiratory disease are taking place in Denver.

Not only is National Jewish recognized world-wide for its research, it is also known for its considerable philan-

thropic activities in the health care community. Until the mid-1960s, patient care was funded entirely through philanthropy. Today, the hospital continues to provide a significant amount of free and subsidized care to those unable to afford total treatment costs.

Founded in 1899 as a nonsectarian, non-profit hospital for tuberculosis patients, National Jewish enters the 21st century as the only facility in the world dedicated exclusively to pulmonary disorders. It is one of Colorado's treasures. Next year it will celebrate its 100th year of giving health and hope to people suffering from pulmonary diseases.

Today, I want to commend National Jewish on the rich history of patient care and research given to Colorado, to congratulate them on being recognized as the top-ranked Respiratory Hospital in America, and to wish them well as they celebrate the 100th anniversary in 1999.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, September 4, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,547,400,016,580.17 (Five trillion, five hundred forty-seven billion, four hundred million, sixteen thousand, five hundred eighty dollars and seventeen cents).

One year ago, September 4, 1997, the federal debt stood at \$5,413,849,000,000 (Five trillion, four hundred thirteen billion, eight hundred forty-nine million).

Twenty-five years ago, September 4, 1973, the federal debt stood at \$458,627,000,000 (Four hundred fifty-eight billion, six hundred twenty-seven million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,088,773,016,580.17 (Five trillion, eighty-eight billion, seven hundred seventy-three million, sixteen thousand, five hundred eighty dollars and seventeen cents) during the past 25 years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALISON AND PARKER BANKS CELEBRATING THEIR FIRST BIRTHDAY

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to join me in congratulating Alison Spencer Banks and Parker James Banks on the anniversary of their first birthday. It was one year ago today that their parents, Sarah and John, were blessed with the gift of life, times two. Alison and Parker will see a much different world in their lifetime, than either myself or my colleagues have witnessed in theirs. Alison and Parker will have to meet the demands of an "information" based culture and economy.

As people of freedom reach for opportunity and achieve greatness, our nation prospers. A government that lives beyond its means and reaches beyond its limits violates our basic liberties, and the nation suffers.

All of us assembled here in the United States Senate on this Fourth